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Letter dated 29 July 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the joint communiqué issued at the close of the official visit made to Cameroon on 28 and 29 July 2004 by H.E. Chief Olusegun Obasanjo (see annex).

Since the communiqué issued at the conclusion of the talks concerns the border dispute between Cameroon and Nigeria, of which the Security Council remains seized, I should be grateful if you would have it distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Martin **Belinga-Eboutou**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 29 July 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French and English]

Joint communiqué

1. At the invitation of H. E. Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E. Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, paid a two-day official visit to Cameroon from 28 to 29 July, 2004.

2. During the visit, the two Heads of State made an overview of the long-standing bilateral relations existing between Nigeria and Cameroon, laying special emphasis on economic cooperation, consular and immigration issues and ongoing efforts geared towards the peaceful settlement of their border dispute through the implementation of the ruling of the International Court of Justice as agreed .

3. The two Heads of State expressed satisfaction at the spirit of cooperation and determination to produce results that characterised the work of the Mixed Commission and the conclusions it has arrived at so far, and endorsed by the two Heads of State . They urged the Commission to do everything to implement the work programme adopted within the agreed deadlines endorsed by the two Heads of State.

4. Both Heads of State extended all their appreciation and gratitude to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. KOFI ANNAN, for the ceaseless efforts he is putting in for the implementation of the International Court of Justice ruling of 10 October 2002.

5. They paid deserved tribute to friendly countries and international institutions for their contributions and support.

6. Moreover, the two Heads of State stressed the need to strengthen relations between the two countries and to implement additional measures that would boost the climate of trust between their governments and peoples.

7 Furthermore, they decided that the Joint Commission, which will meet every year in either capital city will be chaired alternately by a high level official designated by each Head of State. The fourth session of the said Commission will be held in Yaounde in November 2004.

8. They expressed their joint determination to promote economic activities through partnerships and to create an enabling environment for joint ventures between business operators of both countries.

9. The two Heads of State equally agreed to embark on discussions with a view to adopting measures that would ensure equal treatment of their citizens in either country. In this connection, the Permanent Commission on Consular and Immigration Matters, the setting up of which was agreed upon in Abuja in September 2002 will hold its first meeting in Cameroon before the end of September 2004. It will

submit a report to the Joint Commission during its fourth session.

10. They agreed to open discussions with a view to signing a Non-Aggression Pact.

11. The two Heads of State raised issues of common interest relating to peace and security, economic development and regional and international integration. In this regard, they reasserted their their commitment to the implementation of the programme of NEPAD.

12. Regarding the Treaty establishing the Commission on the Gulf of Guinea, the President of the Republic of Cameroon reaffirmed his country's interest in this important project. He therefore announced that his country would pursue the process of effectively becoming a member of the organization.

13. They expressed deep concern over the prevailing situation in Darfour (Sudan). In this regard they launched an appeal to the parties concerned, and in particular to the Government of Sudan to take all appropriate steps to disarm all the militia. They equally called upon the International community to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the population of Darfour.

14. Furthermore, they expressed their concern over the situation in Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia and the Great Lakes region.

15. The two Heads of State expressed satisfaction at the convergence of their views on all the issues discussed, and reaffirmed their commitment to work together in seeking solutions.

16. The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria expressed his deep gratitude to President Paul Biya and to the brotherly people of Cameroon for the warm and generous hospitality extended to him and his entourage.

17. He invited his Cameroonian counterpart to pay an official visit to Nigeria at a date to be determined by mutual agreement. The invitation was accepted.

Done in English and French
at Yaounde, on 29 July 2004

For the Federal Republic of Nigeria

H.E OLUYEMI ADENIJI
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of Cameroon

H.E François-Xavier NGOUBEYOU
Minister of State in charge of
External Relations